

The Black Mirror News

Reflections

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Vol. 4 - No. 3 • March 1999

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On our cover... MS. HOLLIE BELL

(see page 2)

NEW JERSEY EDITION

BLACK MIRROR NEWS*True stories that aren't in the dailies*

Address all Editorial and Advertising Correspondence to:

THE BLACK MIRROR NEWS

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Social Calendar

Every First Sunday, 6 PM to 1 AM - Chocolate
 Sundays "For Friends" at Marlo's Restaurant
 & Club, 702 Lyons Avenue, Irvington, New
 Jersey. Live Jazz... In "AFFECT" 6-8:30 PM.

MARCH 18, 5:30 P.M. - The Mayor's
 Commission on The Status of Women will hold
 its Second Annual "Hall of Fame" Dinner at
 the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark Inductees are:
 Sally G. Carroll, Maria Coutinho, Dr. E. Alma
 Flagg, Dr. Hilda A. Hidalgo-Flores, Kitty V.
 Taylor and Dorothy Gould. Posthumous
 Inductees: Geraldine "GiGi" Foushee,
 Commissioner Carol Robinson. Tickets -
 \$35.00. For additional information call 733-
 5353.

MARCH 20 - The Brothers of 66 Presents
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 Dress. Donation only \$55.00; For tickets and
 information, call: S.W. Ernesto Morillo, 32°
 (973) 313-9340 or R.W. William Patterson, III,
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MARCH 28 - 10th Annual Palm Sunday
 Breakfast at The Robert Treat Hotel, 50 Park
 Place, Newark, at 8:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
 sponsored by the Committee to Re-Elect
 Donald Bradley. For tickets and further
 information call: 482-4125.

On the cover...

MS. HOLLIE BELL, Grand Prize winner in
 the senior hairstyling competition at
Concorde School of Hair Design, (see ad-
 vertisements on page 6 & 7) located in
 Bloomfield, NJ. Ms. Bell, formerly a student
 at Clifford J. Scott High School, East Orange,
 would like to give special thanks to all of the
 teachers at Concorde School of Hair Design
 and to all of her friends for the encourage-
 ment they gave to her. Hollie has learned to
 be the best hairstylist she can be and how to
 deal with people in a professional manner.

POLLY TICKS

"HIGH CRIMES"

The Human & Civil Rights Association of New Jersey

By Tiny Prince

Black and Latino brothers and sisters were simply astounded when they learned that the Department of Treasury's chief of Affirmative Action had been shuttled to the sidelines after many years of loyalty in the position. It seems that the last four years of administering the regulations that governs State departments and agencies (collectively public agencies) to pay a sum equal to one-half of one percent of the total cost of each 100% State funded public projects to approved agencies for the training of minorities did him in. For those of you who do not know, all public works projects on the turnpike, parkways, bridges and tunnels of New Jersey should have a qualified diversified workforce. When there is a lily-white workforce, the Department of Treasury's Affirmative Action Office sends out Alert Notices to the contractor that he is not in compliance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

In addition, the Affirmative Action Office ensures that all public works contracts have the mandated language of equal employment opportunity (EEO) in them. Some four years ago, a handshake agreement began with his superior for vocational skills training programs to be set up under regulations N.J.A.C. 17:27-7.5- Financing Minority/Female Outreach and Training Programs. This was in response to contractors failure to comply with minority hiring on their public works contracts. Using a broad interpretation of the guidelines, the formula was applied for the training of minority and females by an approved agency, who then began a referral source for qualified workers for the public funded projects.

In the Fall of 1998, the regulations promulgating the Office of Affirmative Action was not signed off on. They were allowed to lapse. In December 1998, the Office of the Attorney General gave a narrowly tailored interpretation of the lapsed regulations to a minority business entrepreneur - and was not paid. Governor Christine Whitman has long stated that she supports Affirmative Action, however there appears to be a double standard when it comes to the retention and reward of blacks in her administration. Should we take for example, James Weinstein, commissioner of transportation and former anchor person of the Atlantic City tunnel project, he advanced.

There was no nitpicking of his role in that project. Similarly, Attorney General Peter Verniero has been selected to join the state Supreme Court. His office is in the midst of investigating the existence of racial profiling by State Police. The practice, which the agency denies is used by troopers, involves stopping drivers on the highway because of skin color. In addition, there are allegations that the State Police had been warned months before that one of the troopers involved in last April's shooting on the New Jersey Turnpike was violent and racist. Under the glare of the media, Col. Carl Williams, the superintendent of the State Police was fired by Gov. Christine Whitman for comments made in a lengthy interview in which he said illegal drug trafficking in the United States could be linked to some minorities.

This is the same Attorney General's office who interpreted the null and void regulations N.J.A.C. 17:27-7.5- Financing Minority/Female Outreach and Training Programs in December 1998. The Minority business entrepreneur is asking the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs to investigate the matter. The Reverend Reginald Jackson, executive director of the Black Ministers Council has called upon the U.S. Justice Department of Justice to investigate the matter in conjunction with the State Attorney General's Office. Should one forget, the contracts that drives public funded projects are a mix bag of money from the federal government.

If it is true that Verniero will dampen the judicial activism that marked the high courts prior to his appointment, this means that women and minorities will have to start all over again. Verniero said he would judge each case individually, on the merits - not applying any particular ideological test. Now this is how Affirmative Action started. This sounds like minorities and women are getting caught in a shell game. The shuffle is being given to blacks in the Whitman administration. Lonna Hooks served as a show 'n tell face as Secretary of State, whose face is now DeForest Soaries. He was a part of the kitchen cabinet in the dismissal of Williams. During the past year, the highly qualified Kathleen Smith was not selected commissioner on the Casino Controls Commission, however, a look alike with less qualifications was selected. The Administration is looking for a look alike to come in over the chief of the Department of Treasury's Affirmative Action Office. The success of the program has been established. There is a lot of money involved should the one half of one per cent formula be applied, or not applied. The training formula on the Atlantic City tunnel contract alone is worth 40 million dollars. The Governor should remember that minorities and women do vote. It is something that she should think about as she eyes the U.S. Senate post.



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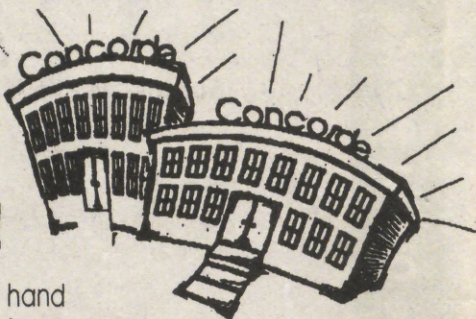
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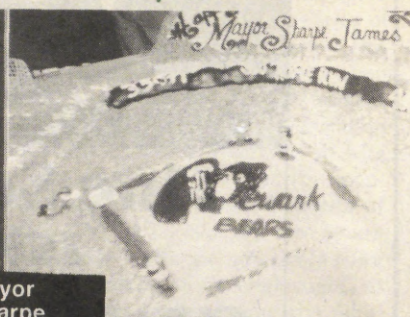
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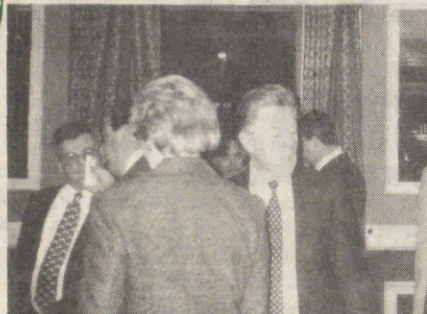
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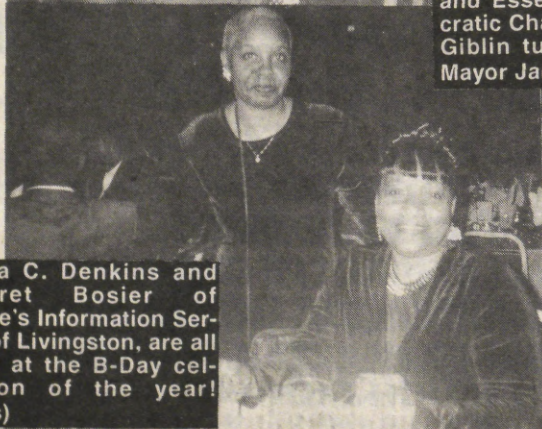
Mayor Sharpe James' Annual B-Day Bash with The O'JAY's; What a nite!



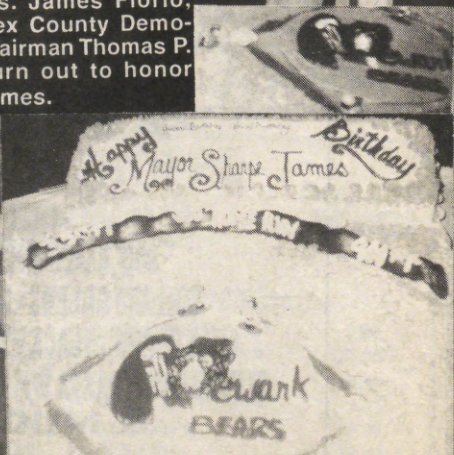
Mayor Sharpe James with Newark's First Lady, Mary James and sons.



Mr & Mrs. James Florio, and Essex County Democratic Chairman Thomas P. Giblin turn out to honor Mayor James.



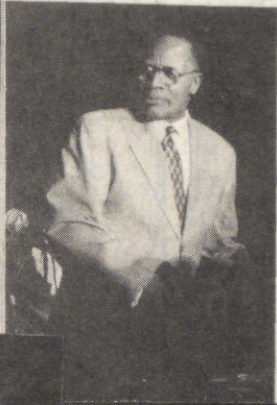
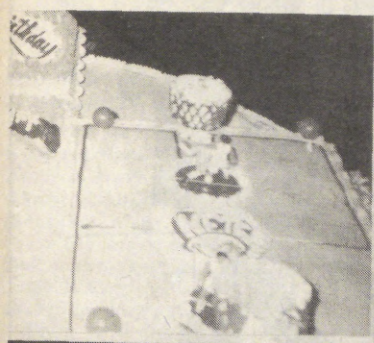
Sandra C. Denkins and Margaret Bosier of Burrelle's Information Services of Livingston, are all smiles at the B-Day celebration of the year! (smiles)



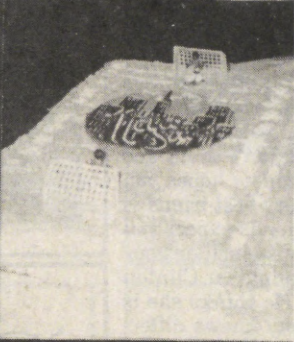
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Mayor Sharpe James had and has a vision for the city. He looks over the B-day cake depicting the 300 million plus sports complex proposed for downtown Newark.



Not only does he govern well – but, Mayor James shows he also party's well. He's pictured above with the fabulous O'Jays; and below, with Mrs. Thelma Vannoy of Burrelle's Information Services.

Duke Ellington's Music Is Forever

THE BLACK MIRROR NEWS
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THE



SHADOW KNOWS...

If you think for a minute that *The Shadow* is asleep, think again, *The Shadow* sees everything and tells all. Like last week when that old man on Grove St. in East Orange thought he was slick, picking up that young girl at the corner of William St. and heading for a motel on Rt. 22. She wasn't so dumb though, she made him feed her and take her to Bradley's for a dress first – and that's more than he has done for his wife in the last twenty years. She's making car payments out of the little bit of money she makes from her day care job... Why are so many people out in the street begging for money? I have never seen so many strong young men asking if you have any "spare change" or a cigarette. I told one the other day that there is no such thing as "spare change", I need all that I can get my hands on trying getting a "spare job"... There's a certain young sister who thinks all of the men who see her, wants her, and she might be right – she has all of the things that makes you a superstar – pretty face, nice hair, big boobs and a heavy duty bootie. The only thing she doesn't have is a J.O.B. and I don't think she has ever tried to find one... *The Shadow* hopes you are watching your back because every best friend is not your best friend. Remember, friends expect you to share things with them this can also include your girl or your man. Like that cute couple on Clinton Ave. near So. 11th St. in Newark. He thinks she is all his all the time, but *The Shadow* knows differently. While he's out on the corner working his "job" as a chemical salesman, she is also selling her goods to a lot of men in the area... *The Shadow* sees that the young girl's skirts are getting shorter and shorter these days and as a result we now know who has knocked knees and "heavy duty" booties... The fellows are still riding up and down the streets all night in flashy cars with no money to go into the clubs – and if they do go inside the "repo man" is waiting outside to make them New Jersey's newest pedestrians... A warning to Miss T.M. on So. 17th St. in Newark: stop what you are doing now! He ain't worth it – he'll never leave his wife for you in a million years. And remember, men only leave home for another woman on soap operas – get real, and stop dreaming. And as for you, mister, stop leading the girl on – telling her your wife doesn't understand you, the only thing she doesn't understand is how you can be out in the street every night with the boys. You better look out 'cause she just might call up "Tyroné".

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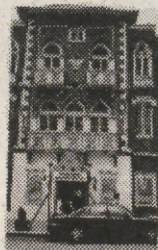
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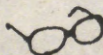
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civic leader, 76

Herbert Nathaniel Killiebrew, 76 of West Orange, a bail bondsman and civic leader operated Killiebrew Bail Bonds in Newark for many years. He was a union contractor, dealing with masonry work for more than 20 years, and a sub contractor for Industrial Contractors, one of the largest companies of garbage disposal, cement and stone making, in Newark.

Mr. Killiebrew also owned a security company and was the former owner of the Blue Gardenia Club in Newark.

From 1979 until 1994, he was chairman of the non-profit Newark Job Bank, Trade and Training Corp. a company helping young minority men and women.

He was an active staff member of the periodical, "The Black Mirror News," in Newark for the past three years and a member of the West Orange Civil Rights Association of New Jersey.

CHARLES (CHARLIE BROWN) EDGAR

businessman, 65

GEORGE E. CUSHNIE

funeral director, 72

He owned and operated the George E. Cushnie Funeral Home in East Orange for 43 years. Mr. Cushnie was appointed the Essex County Morgue Keeper in the Medical Examiner's Office.

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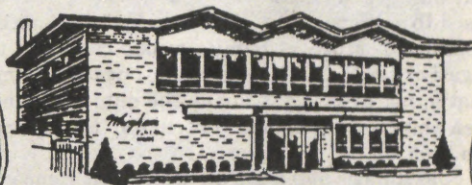
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Strictly JAZZ!

By JOE THOMAS

WHY WE NEED JAZZ

I read with great interest the column in this publication, *"The Shadow"* in which he adroitly addresses many of the problems faced by our youth as well as ourselves these days.

You might ask: "what has that got to do with Jazz"?!!!

I don't believe that anyone would disagree that during the "formative" years, what one is exposed to culturally and otherwise, helps shape our disposition. Much of today's music caters to the negative said (albeit true, sometimes) of things. That is not to say that this is the only problem or even the most egregious contributor to the problem.

Jazz music embodies all of our experiences. If one listens to the incomparable Billy Holiday. Though she sang many songs that described much of the pain and torment she was enduring, it was done in a manner that attracted to itself a compassionate response. One could arguably state that some of today's music inappropriately promotes self-defeating solutions that simple exacerbate the situation, making their lives even more complicated.

Jazz, (in my view) has been unjustly relegated to a position in some parts of the recording industry as "insignificant". The bottom line to them is "what sells". I don't submit that they don't have a point, (except, that it is not insignificant) Jazz is as much of our heritage as anything else that comes to mind, and must be preserved!!

The late, great Betty "Be-Bop" Carter was featured in a two hour special on television weeks ago, and she was her usual, better than magnificent self. She had within her group, young musicians. This was good to see, as so many young people have opted to go the more financially rewarding R & B, Rock or "Pop" route.

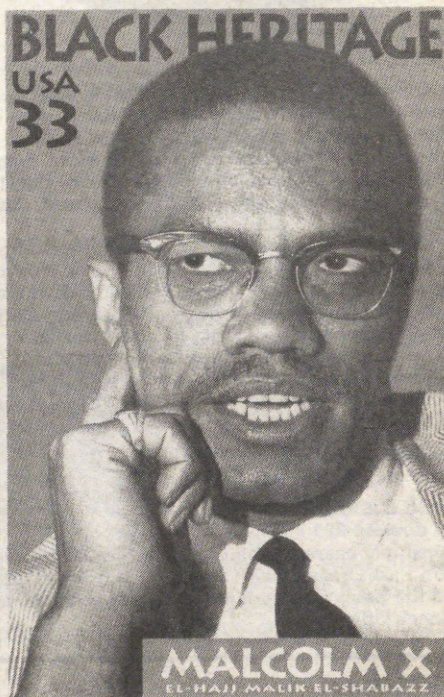
It is said: *"Music can soothe the savage beast."* Though it is to an extent an axiom, it may have some validity.

Till next time. - Luv ya all

Keep Jazz Alive!!

JOE THOMAS

A NEW RELEASE:



MALCOLM X (El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz)

The 22nd stamp in the Black Heritage series honors Malcolm X, one of the most influential African-American leaders of the 1960s. His controversial ideas sharpened America's debate about racial relations and strategies for social change. Born Malcolm Little in 1925, Malcolm X became the most visible spokesperson for the Nation of Islam in the early 1960s. He later broke away from the organization, disavowed his earlier separatist preaching and supported a more integrationist solution to racial problems. Under the name El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, he attempted to organize an independent movement to put his new ideas into effect. On February 21, 1965, he was shot to death while giving a speech to his followers in Harlem. The commemorative stamp is available at your Post Office.



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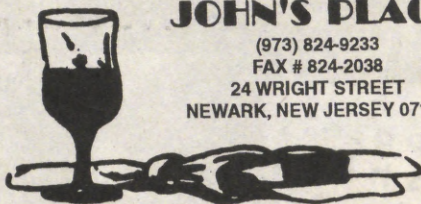
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